



Dental Office Waste Handling Procedures For Dentists



Waste Type	Source	Management Options	Restrictions
Used X-Ray Fixer Solution	X-Ray processing	1) Dispose of through a silver reclamation facility or hazardous waste hauler 2) Purchase your own silver recovery unit	DO NOT: 1) Rinse down the drain
X-Ray Developer	X-Ray processing	1) Check with local wastewater treatment facility before discharging to sewer	DO NOT: 1) Mix X-Ray developer and used X-Ray fixer 2) If mixing occurs, dispose mixture as hazardous waste
Chromium-Containing X-Ray System Cleaners	X-Ray system cleaning	1) Dispose of as hazardous waste 2) Switch to non-chromium cleaners	DO NOT: 1) Rinse cleaners containing chromium down the drain
Lead Foils, Shields, and Aprons	X-Ray processing, protective shields	1) Dispose of as hazardous waste 2) Return to the original manufacturer for recycling	DO NOT: 1) Place in trash 2) Place in the biohazard bag
Chemiclave/Chemical Sterilant Solutions	Sterilization of dental instruments	1) Dilute chemiclave solution with at least 4 parts of water, then rinse down drain – flush drain well	DO NOT: 1) Rinse undiluted chemiclave solution down the drain 2) Flush down septic system
Disinfectants and Cleaners	General office cleaning	1) Follow label directions for handling and disposal	DO NOT: 1) Flush down septic system
Alcohols, Ethers, Peroxides		1) Dispose of through a hazardous waste hauler	DO NOT: 1) Flush down drain or septic system
General Office Waste		1) Recycle as much as possible	
Fluorescent Bulbs		1) Recycle all fluorescent bulbs 2) Dispose of as hazardous waste	DO NOT: 1) Place in trash